Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

April 18, 2023

Mr. Stuart Delery White House Counsel 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. Delery:

We write extremely concerned about reports that President Biden is considering bringing hundreds of social media influencers, including those who use the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) affiliated TikTok, into the White House to promote his agenda. As you know, TikTok is owned by ByteDance which is ultimately controlled by the CCP. This poses a serious national security threat at an increasingly dangerous time as China continues its military aggression towards Taiwan and economic coercion across the globe.

Recent reports state that the White House is also considering "a dedicated White House briefing space for [TikTok] influencers to meet in person." This extremely irresponsible action is a blatant and severe national security threat that will only empower the espionage efforts of one of our greatest adversaries. China has already infiltrated multiple facets of our society. This infiltration is largely due to TikTok, which the CCP has utilized to surveil and access data for over 140 million Americans. The fact that this Administration is even considering this is alarming and sends the wrong message to our adversaries.

The Biden Administration's position to welcome these influencers into the White House also is in direct contradiction to the numerous calls from elected officials for the app to be banned. It is abundantly clear that TikTok is a national security issue.² We should approach the app with extreme caution and with strong policies, and we should not parade these individuals into the White House and give them briefing space next to the Oval Office – essentially inviting and promoting CCP infiltration into one of our most restricted spaces.

For these reasons, we strongly encourage your office, in coordination with the Defense Department and Federal Communications Commission, oppose this effort from the White House and stop this before it happens. We also request a response back to this letter outlining how your office will investigate this matter and ensure we are protected no later than April 28, 2023.

CC:			

¹ Biden's digital strategy: an army of influencers https://www.axios.com/2023/04/09/bidens-digital-strategy-an-army-of-influencers

² CBS anchor laughs at Biden spox's excuse for his appearance on TikTok: He was 'filmed on government property!' https://www.foxnews.com/media/cbs-anchor-laughs-biden-spoxs-excuse-appearance-tiktok-filmed-government-property

Joseph Biden The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20500

Lloyd J. Austin III Secretary of Defense 1000 Defense Pentagon Washington, DC 20301-1000

Brendan Carr Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 45 L Street NE Washington, DC 20554

Sincerely,

Mark Alford
Member of Congress

Carlos A. Gimenez Member of Congress

Jefferson Van Drew Member of Congress Guy Reschenthaler Member of Congress

Ames C. Moylan Member of Congress

Member of Congress



Cory Hills Member of Congress

Nancy Mace Member of Congress

Anna Paulina Luna Member of Congress

Rudy Yakym III Member of Congress

Andrew Ogles
Member of Congress

Eric A. "Rick" Crawford Member of Congress

Jen A Kiggans Member of Congress

Thomas H. Kean, Jr. Member of Congress

Member of Congress

John R. Moolenaar Member of Congress

Randy Feenstra Member of Congress Andy Biggs Member of Congress